

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces any and all prior claim lists.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original). Equipment for producing carbonated water, comprising water supplying means, carbonic acid gas supplying means and a static mixer having 20 to 100 elements.

Claim 2 (original). The equipment for producing the carbonated water according to claim 1, wherein the water supplying means comprises a water vessel and a plurality of circulation pumps for circulating water in the water vessel via the static mixer, and the plurality of the circulation pumps are connected in series.

Claim 3 (original). The equipment for producing the carbonated water according to claim 2, wherein a gas-liquid separator is disposed downstream of the static mixer.

Claim 4 (original). A process for producing carbonated water, wherein a carbonic acid gas is dissolved in water by supplying the water and the carbonic acid gas to a static mixer having 20 to 100 elements.

Claim 5 (original). The process for producing the carbonated water according to claim 4, wherein a formula (1) is satisfied with a premise that a number of elements of the static mixer is N pieces, and a Reynolds number when a mixture of water and a carbonic acid gas flow in the static mixer is Re:

$$100,000 \leq \text{Re} \times N \leq 2,000,000 \dots (1).$$

Claim 6 (currently amended). The process for producing the carbonated water according to ~~any one of claims 4 and 5~~ claim 4, wherein a formula (2) is satisfied with a premise that the carbonated water is produced by supplying the mixture of the water and the carbonic acid gas to the static mixer for only one time, a flow rate of the carbonic acid gas to be supplied is X (L/min) and a flow rate of the water to be supplied is Y (L/min):

$$0.5 \leq X/Y \leq 1.2 \dots (2).$$

Claim 7 (currently amended). The process for the carbonated water according to ~~any one of claims 4 and 5~~ claim 4, wherein a formula (3) is satisfied with a premise that the carbonated water is produced by circulating the water in a water vessel via the static mixer, the flow rate of the carbonic acid gas to be supplied is X (L/min) and the flow rate of the water to be supplied is Y (L/min):

$$0.3 \leq X/Y \leq 1.0 \dots (3).$$